

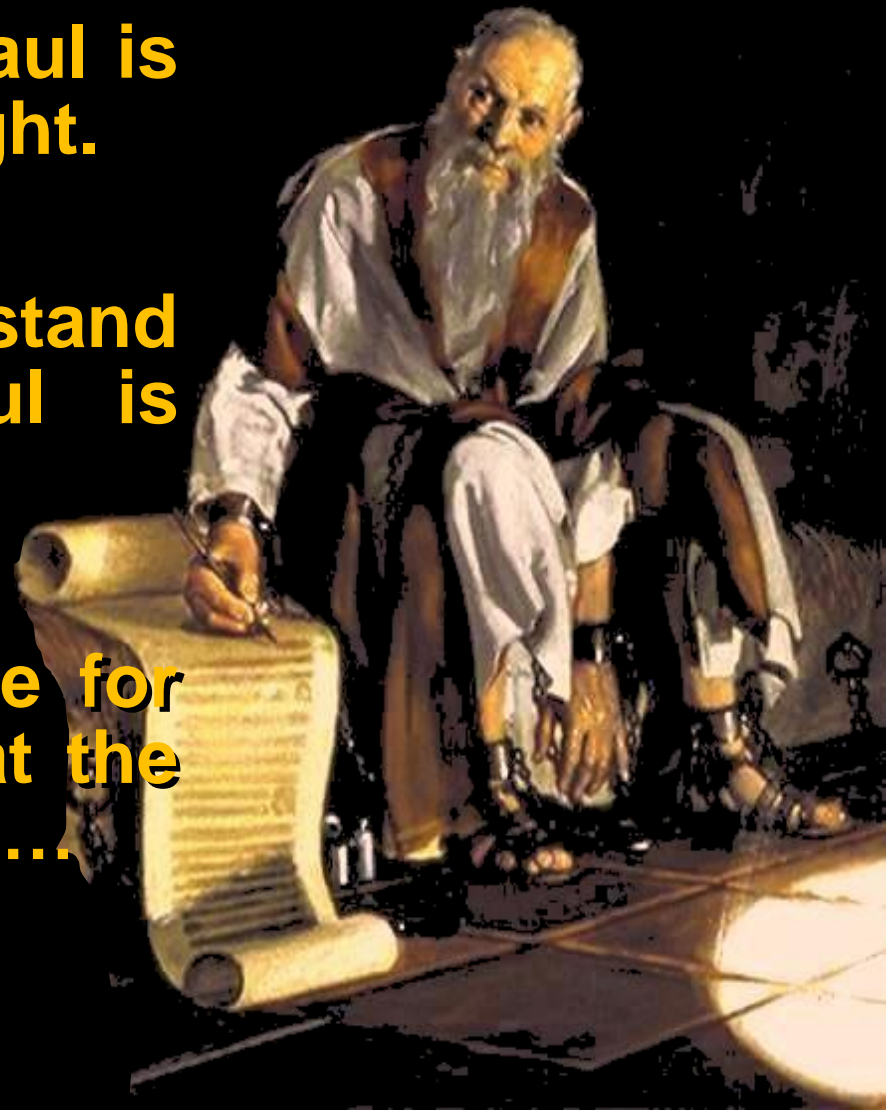
PHILIPPIANS 1:21

For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

This comment made by Paul is truly a very beautiful thought.

But do we really understand the depth of what Paul is saying in this passage?

In our lesson, I would like for us to take a closer look at the great lesson for each of us...



PHILIPPIANS 1:21

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Paul identifies himself...



Here Paul is speaking primarily of his own determination...

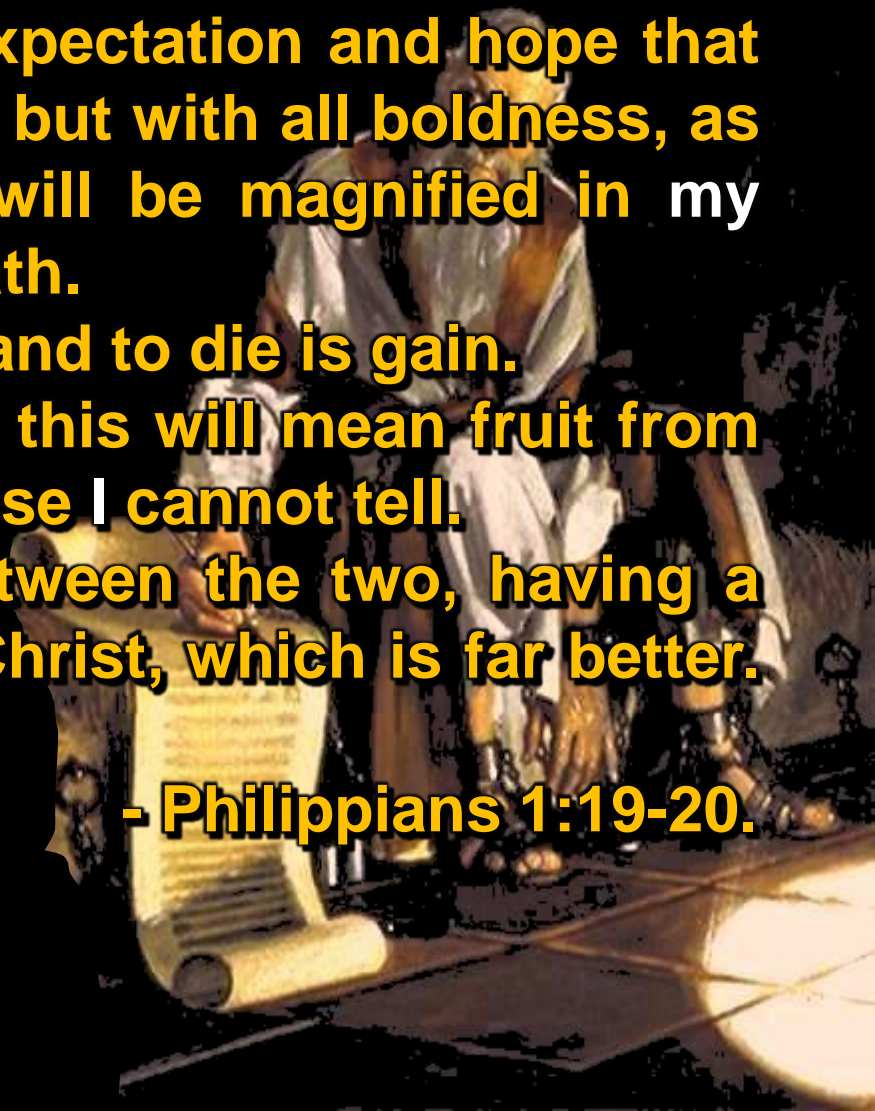
20 according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death.

21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

22 But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell.

23 For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.

- Philippians 1:19-20.



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Paul identifies himself...



PHILIPPIANS 1:21

For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Paul identifies himself...

Live – (to live, mans great desire)...



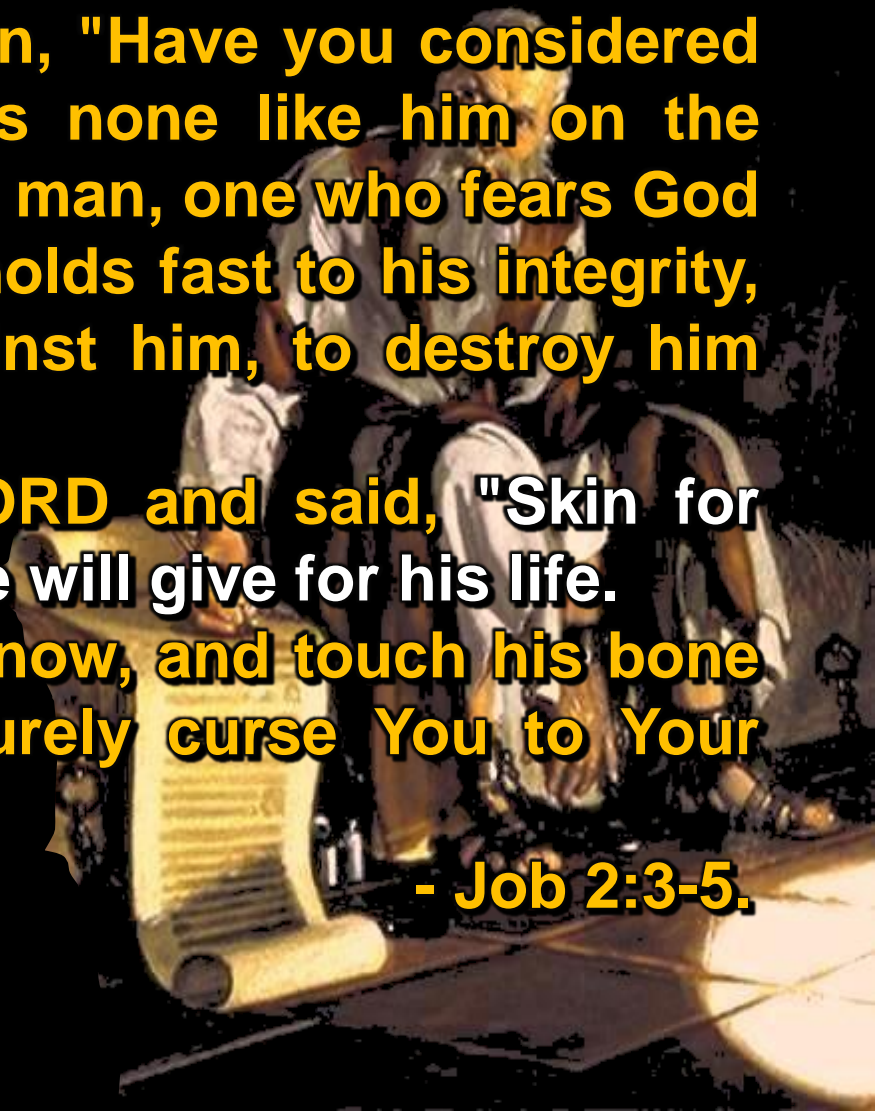
Here Paul identifies what often man considers his greatest treasure, to live...

3 Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause."

4 So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life."

5 "But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"

- Job 2:3-5.



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Paul identifies himself...

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Paul identifies himself...

Live – (to live, mans great desire)...

Paul identifies his source...



Here Paul describes the center and purpose of his existence...

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

- Galatians 2:20.



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Paul identifies himself...

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PHILIPPIANS 1:21

For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Paul identifies himself...

Live – (to live, mans great desire)...

Paul identifies his source...

Die – (to die, mans great fear)...

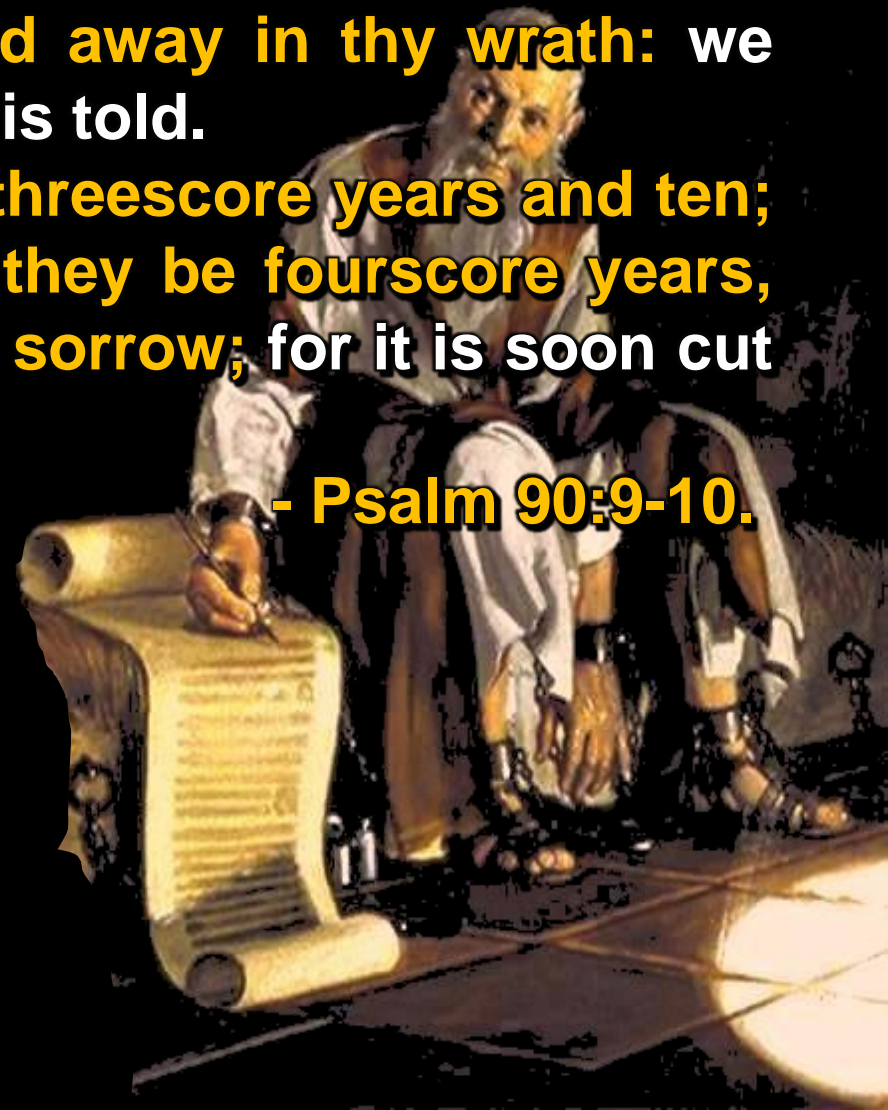


Here Paul describes one of man's greatest and most dreaded fears...

9 For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told.

10 The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

- Psalm 90:9-10.



PHILIPPIANS 1:21

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Paul identifies himself...

Live – (to live, mans great desire)...

Paul identifies his source...

Die – (to die, mans great fear)...



PHILIPPIANS 1:21

For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Paul identifies himself...

Live – (to live, mans great desire)...

Paul identifies his source...

Die – (to die, mans great fear)...

Paul was ready to die...



Paul knew that in Christ, death was not the end for him, but a victory...

54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

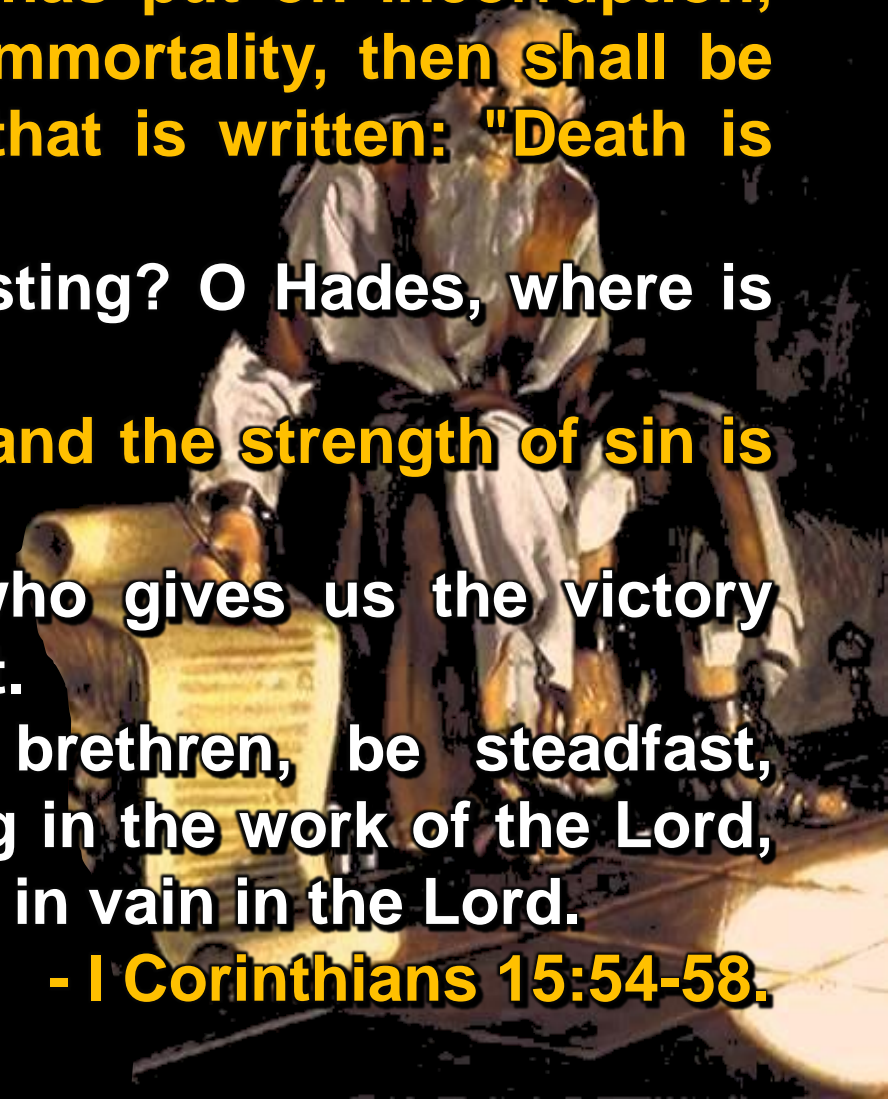
55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.

57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

- I Corinthians 15:54-58.



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Paul identifies himself...

Live – (to live, mans great desire)...

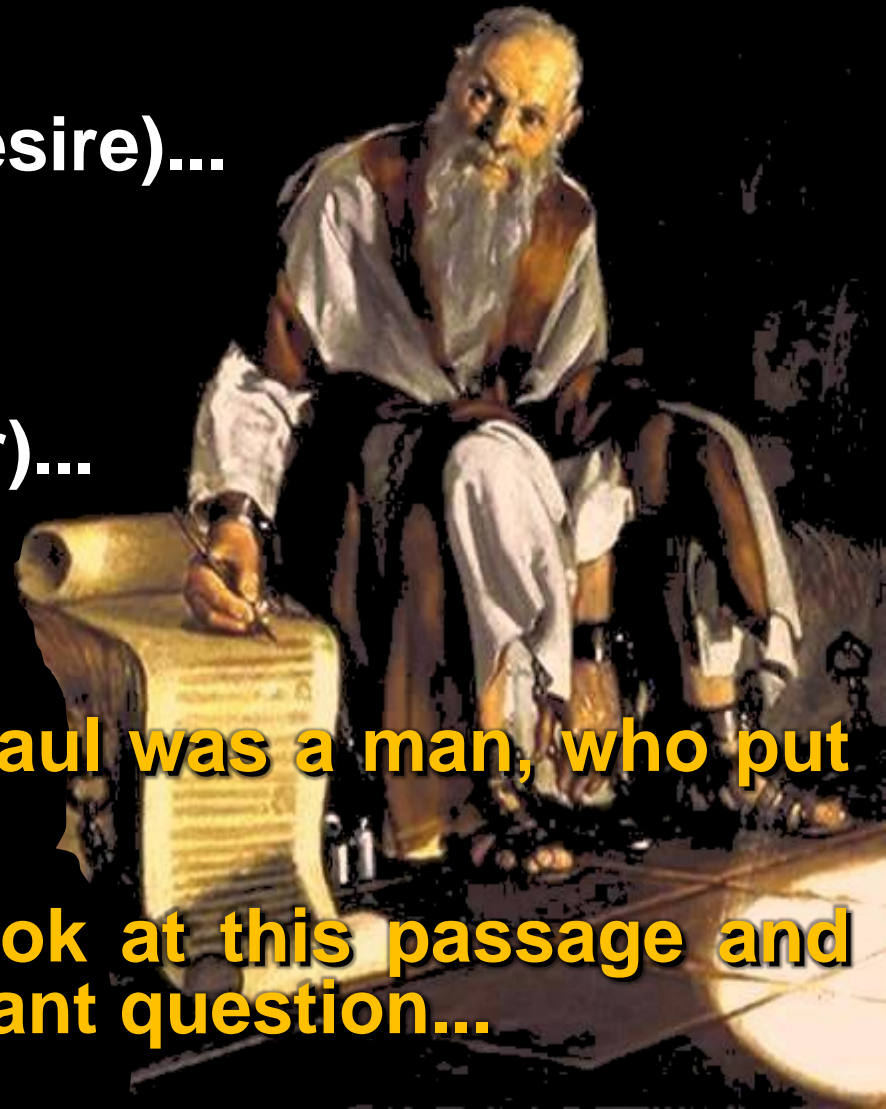
Paul identifies his source...

Die – (to die, mans great fear)...

Paul was ready to die...

It is very clear to see that Paul was a man, who put God first in his life.

This should cause us to look at this passage and ask ourselves a very important question...



PHILIPPIANS 1:21

you

For to ~~me~~, to live is Christ, and to die is gain .



PHILIPPIANS 1:21

you

For to ~~me~~, to live is _____, and to die is gain.



PHILIPPIANS 1:21

you

For to ~~me~~, to live is _____, and to die is _____.



PHILIPPIANS 1:21

you

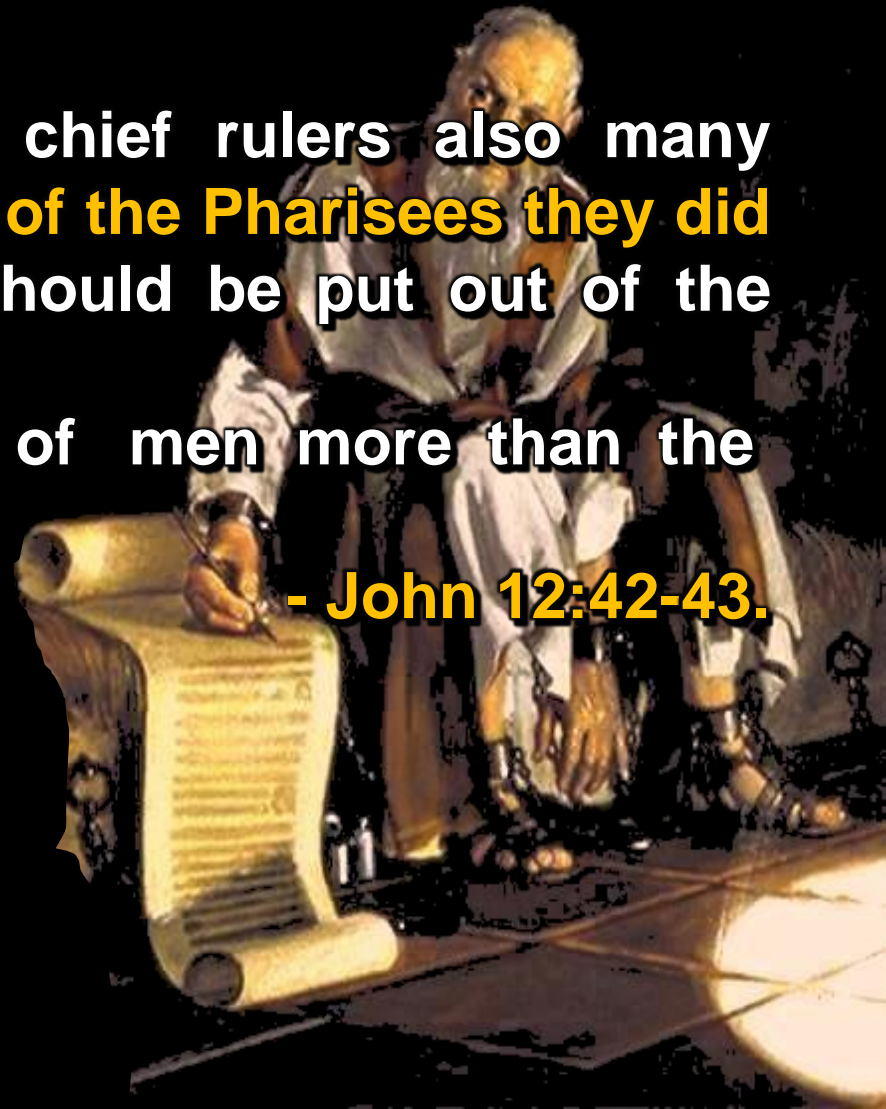
acceptance

For to ~~me~~, to live is _____, and to die is _____.

37 Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue:

43 For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

- John 12:42-43.



PHILIPPIANS 1:21

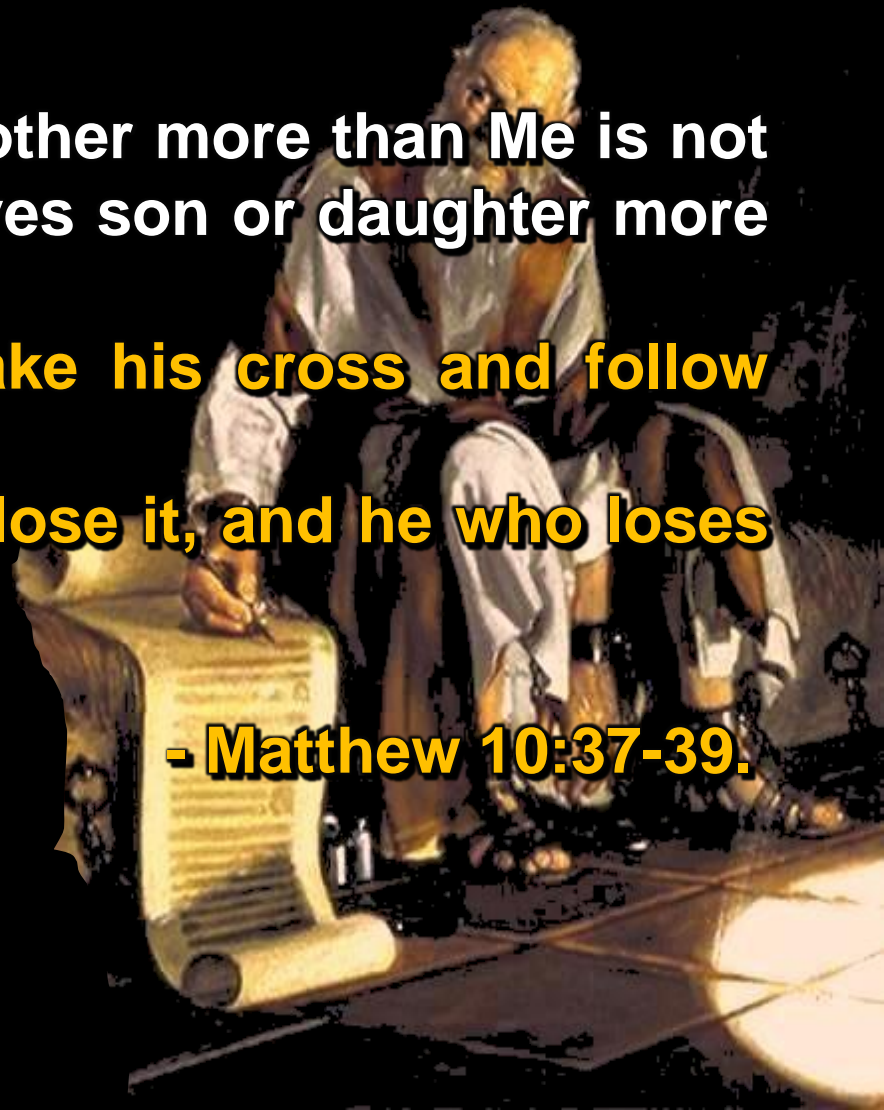
you **acceptance** **loss**
For to ~~me~~, to live is _____, and to die is _____.

37 "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

38 "And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

39 "He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

- Matthew 10:37-39.



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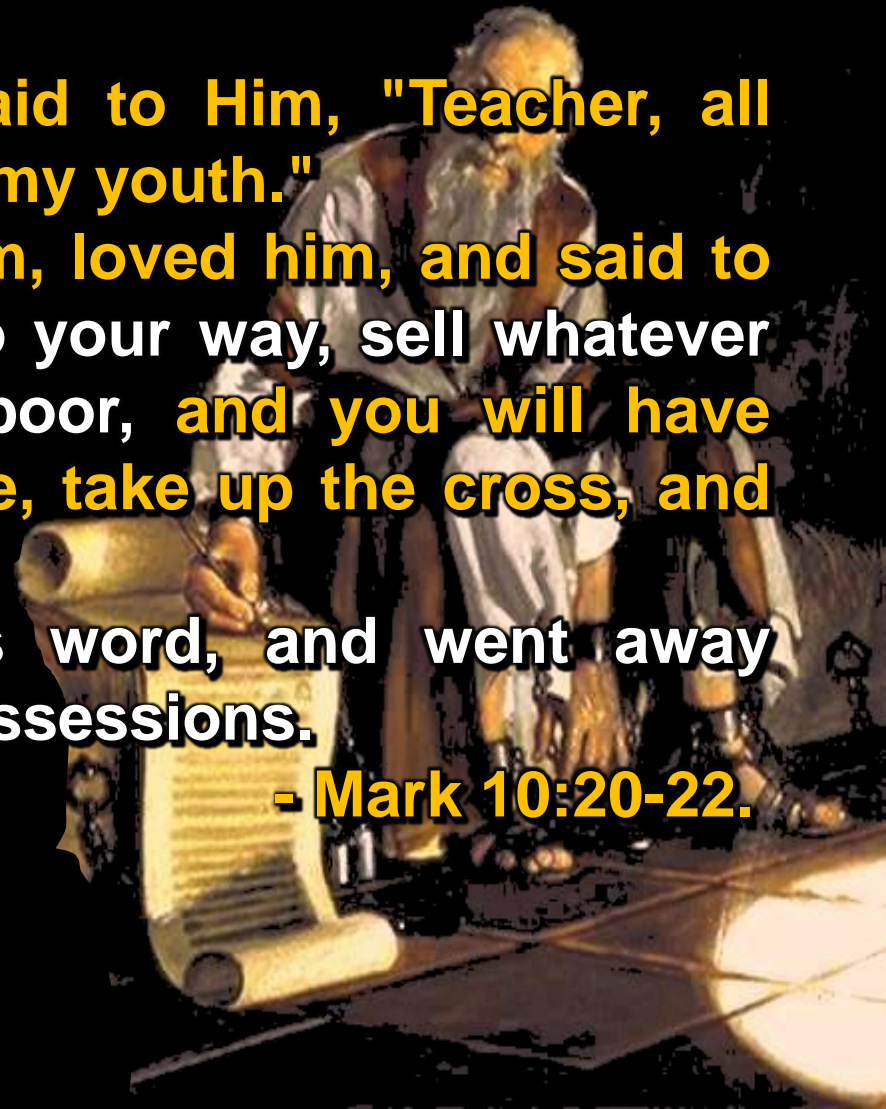
you **possessions**
For to ~~me~~, to live is _____, and to die is _____.

20 And he answered and said to Him, "Teacher, all these things I have kept from my youth."

21 Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me."

22 But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

- Mark 10:20-22.



PHILIPPIANS 1:21

you **possessions** **loss**
For to ~~me~~, to live is _____, and to die is _____.

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

- I Timothy 6:6-10.

PHILIPPIANS 1:21

you **pleasure**
For to ~~me~~, to live is _____, and to die is _____.

11 "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

12 "Those by the **wayside** are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.

13 "But the ones on the **rock** are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away.

14 "Now the ones that fell among **thorns** are those who, when they have heard, go out and are **choked** with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and **bring no fruit to maturity**.

15 "But the ones that fell on the **good** ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.

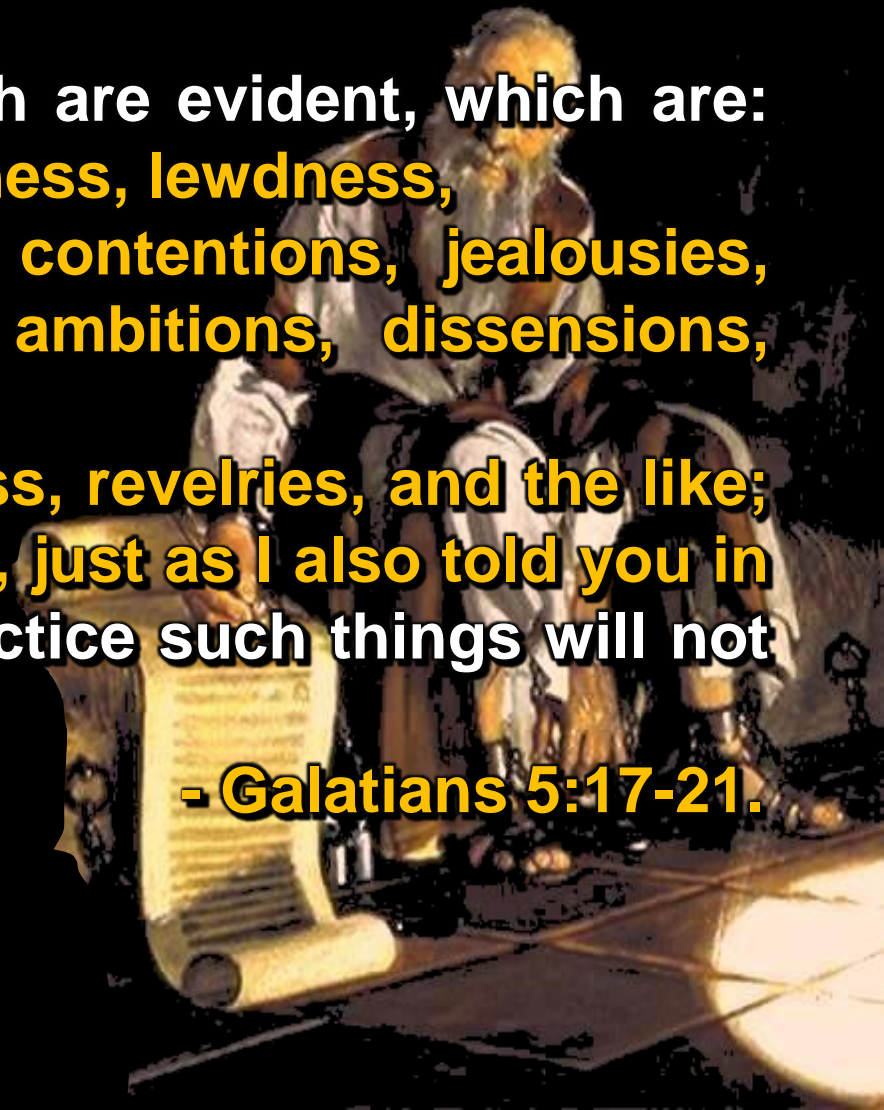
- Luke 8:11-15.

PHILIPPIANS 1:21

you **pleasure** **loss**
For to ~~me~~, to live is _____, and to die is _____.

19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are:
adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,
20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies,
outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions,
heresies,
21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like;
of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in
time past, that those who practice such things will not
inherit the kingdom of God.

- Galatians 5:17-21.



PHILIPPIANS 1:21

you
For to ~~me~~, to live is _____, and to die is _____.



PHILIPPIANS 1:21

you
For to ~~me~~, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

There's an
important thing to
REMEMBER about
this verse...

Is for **CHRIST**
to go here.

The only way
GAIN will go
here.

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO FILL IN THE BLANKS?

Obey The Gospel:
Believe, John 8:24
Repent, Luke 13:3
Confess, Matthew 10:32
Baptized, Mark 16:16

